

## HERE AND THERE

and furnishings will be on view in the B.O.A.C. (Spitfire) hangar at Heston from June 10th until June 18th. Offers and enquiries should be addressed to the Chief Buyer, B.O.A.C., Stratton House, Stratton Street, London, W.1.

### Car Engine for Light Aircraft

IT is reported from America that Crosley Motors Inc., builders of the smallest American motor car, are co-operating with an unnamed aircraft company to power a small single-seater with the Crosley four-cylinder engine. In its normal automobile version the engine develops 26.5 b.h.p. at 5,400 r.p.m. and develops its maximum torque of 33.5 lb/ft at 3,000 r.p.m. Drive from the engine to the airscrew will be by V-belts. The aircraft is designed for a range of 400 miles with a load of 700 lb and, according to plan, is to be sold at less than \$1,000.

### Canadian Immigration

TO provide increased facilities for immigrants to Canada, the Canadian Government has arranged with T.C.A. for the charter of North Star aircraft for immigration traffic from the U.K. to Canada. The first flight under the new arrangements left London on June 1st, and subsequent flights will leave London and Prestwick. Emigrants will have the advantage of reduced fares—£72 to either Montreal or Toronto.

### Boiling Bombs

IN reply to a question in the House recently on the disposal of R.A.F. bombs stored for over three years in the open, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Secretary of State for Air, stated that most of the bombs stored were part of the permanent stocks of the R.A.F. "All surplus bombs which are useful as scrap," he said, "are handed over to the Ministry of Supply, who boil them out as fast as the factory capacity allows."

### Progress in Destruction

THE first series of tests of atomic weapons conducted by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission at Eniwetok Atoll in the Marshall Islands was completed in close secrecy last month. The Commission have reported that these tests which involved three weapons of improved design were in all respects successful and the results indicated very substantial progress; further nuclear developments are being planned based on these results.

### Dummy Run

A RECENT practice flight by a B-36 aircraft of the American Air Force lasted for 36 hours. A load of dummy bombs was carried between Texas and California and was dropped half way through the test. The distance covered was 8,000 miles at an average speed of approximately 220 m.p.h., and the purpose of the flight was to test the ability of the U.S.A.F. to deliver bombs to distant targets and return. It is understood that 97 six-engined B-36s are on order for the American Air Force.

**PROTECTIVE PARASITE:** This bizarre-looking machine is the McDonnell XF-85 designed to be carried in the bomb bay of the Consolidated-Vultee B-36 and to be used for the defence of the bomber. The fighter has no undercarriage and is powered by a Westinghouse J-34 turbojet of 3,000 lb thrust. Smallest of the world's fighters, it has a span of only 21ft; even so, the wings are folded for stowage in the B-36. Air-launching experiments, now imminent, recall the trials made with Gloster Grebes from the airship R.33.



### Gas Turbine Progress

AT the recent annual general meeting of Associated Electrical Industries, Ltd., the Rt. Hon. Oliver Lyttelton, who presided, referred in his speech to the important progress and development of gas turbines. He reminded his listeners that, following early successful flights of experimental aircraft powered by gas turbines manufactured by B.T.H. and Metropolitan-Vickers, the first gas turbine naval vessel to put to sea, and the first flying boat with gas turbine propulsion to take the air, were both equipped with Metropolitan-Vickers power units.

### Rope for Tunny Fishing

THE largest consignment of rope ever to be sent by air was recently despatched from London Airport for a destination on the Libyan Coast. It was urgently required for this season's tunny fishing and reached its destination 4½ hours after despatch. The order was obtained by Wrights' Ropes Ltd. during the B.I.F. In a short season over 800 tons of tunny fish have been caught in the Mediterranean Sea where catching the fish is an industry rather than a sport.



The opening batsmen

## News in Brief

In an attempt to check the destruction by the Colorado beetle, D.D.T. powder was recently sprayed from the air over a large acreage of crops in the Vale of Evesham.

The S.B.A.C. has donated £400 to the British Gliding Association fund for the British team which is to compete in the International Gliding Contests during July in Switzerland.

Arising from a circular letter addressed by Mr. C. E. Buckley, a public accountant, to shareholders of Miles Aircraft, Ltd., the directors of the company have issued a writ for alleged libel against Mr. Buckley.

On May 28th Viscount Hall, First Lord of the Admiralty, formally handed over H.M.S. *Venerable*, a 14,500-ton light fleet carrier of the Royal Navy, to the Royal Netherlands Navy. The carrier will be renamed *Karel Doorman*.

Professor Willy Messerschmitt, the German aircraft designer, was recently fined 2,000 marks, about £50, by a de-Nazification court in Augsburg, in spite of his having proved that he had not taken part in the activities of the Nazi political party.

George Beurling, D.S.O., D.F.C., D.F.M. and bar, one of the best-known war pilots, credited with having shot down 31 enemy aircraft, was killed in a Norseman which crashed near Rome on May 21st. With him was Leonard Cohen, a British subject, who also lost his life.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded at the inquest on May 25th on Percy French and Leonard Kennington, who were killed in an accident on May 23rd at Faversham. The jury added a rider that disciplinary action should be taken against pilots who flew low, after evidence had been given that the aircraft had indulged in low flying.